IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1-49 CANCELED

50. (Currently Amended) Method of configuring a radio uplink comprising:

receiving at a network an ~~element~~ information element having both a cell specific parameter and a radio link specific parameter, in respective messages on an interface between the network element and a radio network controller for configuring the radio uplink from a user equipment to the network element,

configuring the radio uplink at the network element, and

receiving a payload packet from the user equipment to the network element over the radio uplink after the uplink is configured at the network element,

wherein at least one of said respective messages enables said configuring the radio uplink, and

wherein prior to said ~~sending~~ receiving said information element on said interface between said network element and said radio network controller, said radio network controller decides a value for said cell specific parameter or said radio link specific parameter, or both, for sending said information element with said cell specific parameter and said radio link specific parameter in said ~~one or more~~respective messages on said interface from said radio network controller to said network element.

51. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 50, further comprising:

acknowledging correct reception of the payload packet at the network element on a radio downlink from the network element to the user equipment, and

sending the payload packet from the network element to the radio network controller following said correct reception from the user equipment.

52. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 50, wherein said receiving by said network element includes receiving at least one parameter indicative of boundaries within which choices may be made by said network element.

53. (Currently Amended) Method of configuring a radio uplink comprising:

sending an information element having both a cell specific parameter and a radio link specific parameter, in respective messages on an interface to a network element from a radio network controller for configuring the radio uplink from a user equipment to the network element, and

receiving a payload packet from a network element after the payload packet has been sent from the user equipment to the network element over the radio uplink that has been configured,

wherein at least one of said respective messages enables said configuring the radio uplink, and

wherein prior to said sending said information element on said interface between said network element and said radio network controller, said radio network controller decides a value for said cell specific parameter or said radio link specific parameter, or both, for said sending said information element with said cell specific parameter and said radio link specific parameter in said ~~one or more~~ respective messages on said interface from said radio network controller to said network element.

54. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 53, wherein said sending by said radio network controller includes sending at least one parameter to said network element indicative of boundaries within which choices may be made by said network element.

55. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 53, further comprising sending the information on an interface between the radio network controller and another radio network controller for relay to another network element for configuring an uplink between the other network element and the user equipment.

56. (CANCELLED)

57. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 53, wherein said radio network controller is responsive to signaling from said network element with a proposed value or values for said cell specific parameter, said radio link specific parameter, or both, and said radio network controller carries out said sending said information element either confirming or changing said proposed value or values.

58. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 55, wherein said configuring the uplink between the other network element and the user equipment comprises configuring the uplink between the other network element and the user equipment followed by sending the payload packet from the user equipment to the other network element over the radio uplink between the user equipment and the other network element for sending the payload packet to the radio network controller.

59. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 58, further comprising:

acknowledging correct reception of the payload packet at the network element on a radio downlink from the network element to the user equipment, and

acknowledging correct reception of the payload packet at the other network element on a radio downlink from the other network element to the user equipment.

60. (Currently Amended) A system, comprising:

a network element and a radio network controller connected by a signaling interface and arranged to configure a first radio uplink from a user equipment to the network element, the signaling interface being arranged to convey messages having information elements that contain parameters from the radio network controller to the network element,

wherein the information elements have both a cell specific parameter and a radio link specific parameter, and are conveyed in respective messages on ~~signaling~~ the signaling interface between the network element and the radio network controller,

wherein the user equipment is arranged to send a payload packet to the network element over the first radio uplink after the first radio uplink is configured at the user equipment for sending the payload packet to the radio network controller,

wherein at least one of said respective messages is arranged to enable said configuring the first radio uplink, and

wherein the information elements are arranged to configure a second radio uplink between the network element and the user equipment, the first radio network controller being configured to receive a payload packet from the network element over the ~~first~~signaling interface, the second radio network controller being configured to receive the payload packet from the second network element after receipt by the ~~second~~ network element from the user equipment over the second radio uplink, and the ~~second~~ radio network controller being configured to send the payload packet received from the ~~second~~ network element to the radio network controller following the reception by the ~~second~~ network element from the user equipment for transfer from the ~~second~~ radio network controller ~~to the first radio network controller~~.

61. (Currently Amended) A data structure configured to be at least temporarily stored in a non-transitory computer readable medium, the data structure comprising:

information having both a cell specific parameter and a radio link specific parameter to be transferred in respective messages on an interface ~~between~~ from a network element to a radio network controller in order to configure a radio uplink from a user equipment to the network element,

wherein said configuring is carried out in order to enable transmission of a payload packet from the user equipment to the network element over the radio uplink and from the network element to the radio network controller,

wherein at least one of said respective messages enables said configuring the radio uplink, and

wherein prior to said ~~sending~~ transferring of said information ~~element~~ on said interface between said network element and said radio network controller, said radio network controller

decides a value for said cell specific parameter or said radio link specific parameter, or both, for said sending said information with said cell specific parameter and said radio link specific parameter in said ~~one or more~~ respective messages on said interface from said radio network controller to said network element.

62. (Currently Amended) Apparatus comprising:

a first interface configured to communicate information having both a cell specific parameter and a radio link specific parameter in respective messages to a network element from the apparatus in order to configure a radio uplink from a user equipment to the network element; and

a second interface configured to communicate the information between the apparatus which is a radio network controller and a second radio network controller connected to a second network element,

wherein at least one of said respective messages is arranged to enable said configuring the radio uplink, and

~~wherein the information is arranged to configure a second radio uplink between the second network element and the user equipment, the first radio network controller being configured to receive a payload packet from the network element over the first interface, the second radio network controller being configured to receive the payload packet from the second network element after receipt by the second network element from the user equipment over the second radio uplink, and the second radio network controller being configured to send the payload packet received from the second network element to the radio network controller following the reception by the second network element from the user equipment for transfer from the second radio network controller to the first radio network controller~~

wherein prior to communicating said information on said first interface between said network element and said apparatus, said apparatus is configured to decide a value for said cell specific parameter or said radio link specific parameter, or both, for sending said information with said cell specific parameter and said radio link specific parameter in said respective messages on said first interface from said apparatus to said network element.

63. (CANCELLED)

64. (Currently Amended) Apparatus comprising:

a first interface arranged to communicate information having both a cell specific parameter and a radio link specific parameter in respective messages between the apparatus, which is a network element, and a radio network controller in order to configure an uplink channel on a radio link; and

a second interface arranged to communicate signals related to said configuring the uplink channel between the network element and the user equipment, and arranged to receive a payload packet from the user equipment to the network element over the radio uplink after said configuring the uplink channel on the radio link is carried out by the network element,

wherein the first interface is also arranged to convey the payload packet from the network element to the radio network controller following the reception by the network element from the user equipment,

wherein at least one of said respective messages is arranged to enable said configuring the uplink, and

~~wherein the information is arranged to configure a second radio uplink between the network element and the user equipment, the radio network controller being configured to receive a payload packet from the network element over the first interface, the radio network controller being configured to receive the payload packet from the network element after receipt by the network element from the user equipment over the second radio uplink, and the radio network controller being configured to send the payload packet received from the network element to the radio network controller following the reception by the network element from the user equipment for transfer from the radio network controller~~

wherein prior to communicating said information on said first interface between said apparatus and said radio network controller a value is decided by said radio network controller for said cell specific parameter or said radio link specific parameter, or both, for sending said information with said cell specific parameter and said radio link specific parameter in said respective messages on said first interface from said radio network controller to said apparatus.

65. (CANCELLED)

66. (Currently Amended) A data structure for at least temporary storage in a non-transitory computer readable medium, the data structure comprising:

information having both a cell specific parameter and a radio link specific parameter for transfer in respective messages on an interface between a network element and a user equipment in order to configure a radio uplink from the user equipment to the network element,

wherein said configuring is carried out at the network element, for enabling transmission of a payload packet from the user equipment to the network element over the radio uplink and from the network element to the radio network controller,

wherein at least one of said respective messages is arranged to enable said configuring the radio uplink, and

wherein prior to said sending said information-~~element~~ on said interface between said network element and said radio network controller, said radio network controller decides a value for said cell specific parameter or said radio link specific parameter, or both, for said sending said information-~~element~~ with said cell specific parameter and said radio link specific parameter in said-~~one or more~~ respective messages on said interface from said radio network controller to said network element.

67. (Currently Amended) Apparatus comprising:

a first means for communicating information having both a cell specific parameter and a radio link specific parameter in respective messages between the apparatus, which is a network element, and a radio network controller for configuring an uplink channel on a radio link; and

a second means for communicating signals related to said configuring the uplink channel between the network element and the user equipment, and arranged to receive a payload packet from the user equipment to the network element over the radio uplink after said configuring the uplink channel on the radio link is carried out by the network element,

wherein the first means is also for conveying the payload packet from the network element to the radio network controller following the reception by the network element from the user equipment,

wherein at least one of said respective messages is arranged to enable said configuring the uplink, and

~~wherein the information is arranged to configure a second radio uplink between the network element and the user equipment, the radio network controller being configured to receive a payload packet from the network element over the first means for communicating, the radio network controller being configured to receive the payload packet from the network element after receipt by the network element from the user equipment over the second radio uplink, and the radio network controller being configured to send the payload packet received from the network element to the radio network controller following the reception by the network element from the user equipment for transfer from the radio network controller~~

wherein prior to communicating said information by said first means between said apparatus and said radio network controller a value is decided by said radio network controller decides for said cell specific parameter or said radio link specific parameter, or both, for sending said information with said cell specific parameter and said radio link specific parameter in said respective messages by said first means from said radio network controller to said apparatus.

68. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 67, wherein the network element is arranged to acknowledge reception of the payload packet, on a radio downlink from the network element to the user equipment.